Brookhaven Council 2000-2001 annual report

The Brookhaven Council (the Council) consists of representatives from various Departments and Divisions of the Laboratory, elected by the Tenured and Senior Scientific Staff. The Council advises the Laboratory Director on matters relating to scientific staff policy at BNL, and any other matters that affect the performance of research at the Laboratory. The primary concern of the Council is to insure that BNL maintains an atmosphere conducive to continued excellence in scientific research. The Council conducts reviews of candidates proposed for tenure by Departments and Divisions of the Laboratory, and recommends to the Director those candidates found worthy of tenure.

In keeping with tradition, the annual Council term runs from March 1 through February 28. Regular meetings are normally held on the second Monday of each month. Additional meetings are convened as necessary, to attend to urgent issues if any, and/or to meet deadlines. The by-laws of the Council govern its mode of operation.

During this year the Council Bylaws were amended so that all scientific staff were eligible to vote for council members.

In the 00-01 year the council considered several tenure cases. The council’s recommendations were forwarded to Dr. Marburger.

A review of an involuntary termination of a continuing appointment was begun to ensure that due process is being followed according to the guidelines specified in the BNL Scientific Staff Manual.

The Council was asked to respond to the report and recommendations of the Committee (put together by, and reporting to, P. Paul) on BNL Career Structure for Scientific Personnel (L. Trueman, Chair). The council provided comments, indicating that the current tenure system was working well, but that there were problems with continuing level positions. Any changes in the system should be implemented carefully. The above mentioned change in the bylaws was in part a response to these deliberations.